

of Jesus and His heavenly Visitants, the unmeaning interruption of Peter, and the Voice of the unseen Father!

Jesus is thus declared the Son of God—beloved of the Father, obedient unto death, mighty to save to the uttermost; therefore, **HEAR YE HIM!** This is the command of the Father to all: this is the great lesson to us of the Transfiguration. His glory, His humiliation, His death, His infinite exaltation, all urge us with a persuasiveness and an authority not to be withstood, to hear and obey. Listen to Moses and the thunder of the law; listen to the voice of Prophecy, plaintive or joyous or severe; listen to Elijah and to him who came in the spirit of Elijah: listen to all truth by whomsoever spoken: but before all and above all, hear Him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life!

#### THE EFFECT.

Jesus was strengthened, encouraged, filled with holy boldness, by what had taken place. His delight was ever in communion with the Father. Moses and Elias (may we not say?) had gone home again to carry the glad tidings to heaven that Jesus was ready to redeem the world by His blood, and that thus He was to conquer the powers of Hell. Quick as the lightning-flash of thought the triumphant tidings spread through all the Happy Country; and from the choirs of cherubim and seraphim and the vast ranks of the Redeemed the chorus of praise burst forth to the Eternal Son who had laid by His glory that He might as a Man of Sorrows rescue His people from eternal sorrow. And louder, mightier than those acclamations would sound the Voice from the Throne, "This is my beloved Son!" Jesus and His work were from the first the centre of attention to all holy intelligences: the angels desired eagerly to fathom the mysteries of our redemption: how greatly do they rejoice in its consummation! The three disciples hearing the Voice from the cloud fell on their faces for they were sore afraid. How terrible are the voice and the presence of God! No man can see Him and live. But we can see His glory shining from the face of Jesus and rejoice in His unspeakable love. Ah! how shall the enemies of

God bear to see Him when His wrath burns, and His words pronounce everlasting banishment and death.

#### JESUS ONLY.

The disciples having "lifted up their eyes" saw no man save Jesus only. Their hearts would treasure for ever the splendid and sacred vision of that night. Their faith was strengthened; their devotion deepened; their spiritual eyesight cleared; their ideal of His person and His mission greatly exalted. No dream could now be seriously cherished of worldly dominion and a temporal lordship over a Jewish empire. Moses and Elias had spoken of the Master's death: ah! must He, the Lord of Life, drink the bitter cup of death? It must be so. Jesus, to be a Saviour, must die. Dismissing all thought of earthly empire, the disciples must cling to Jesus only, and follow Him in His humiliation and sorrow and death, in His attitude of separation from all worldly power and glory, in His holy war against all the evil that is in the world. Their eyes henceforth must be steadfastly lifted up to Jesus only and their ears must be ever ready to hear His voice. And as it was with the three favoured disciples of old, so must it be with the myriads who love the Saviour now and seek his face. They must look to Him alone, and always hear His voice. Lifting their eyes to the hills of privilege or attainment they are reminded of their transfigured and glorified Lord. In the whisper of the prosperous breeze, in the crash of the adverse storm they listen to a voice from Heaven bidding them to "hear Him."

#### THE APPEAL OF THE HELPLESS.

The mountain with its heavenly splendours must be left behind. Jesus descending speaks to His disciples of His approaching death; and sorrow again fills their hearts: but the prospect of His sufferings, the awful gift of a knowledge of the future, do not unnerve His arm or interfere with the wonted out-flowing of His beneficence. See that tumultuous multitude on the plain, thronging the nine disciples, questioning, doubting, scorning: for have not the nine endeavoured in vain to heal one possessed with a deaf and dumb demon? See the poor boy wal-